



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/828,497	04/05/2001	Dustin M. Davis	027448.0008	6818

7590 02/10/2004

Stephen S Komiczky Esq
Brobeck Phleger & Harrison LLP
12390 El Camino Real
San Diego, CA 92130

EXAMINER

BACKER, FIRMIN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3621

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/828,497

Applicant(s)

DAVIS ET AL.

Examiner

Firmin Backer

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 January 1968.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-68 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-68 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This is in response to a letter for patent filed on April 5th, 2001 in which claims 1-68 are presented for examination. Claims 1-68 are pending in the letter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

The basis of this rejection is set forth in a two prong test of:

- (1) whether the invention is within the technological arts; and
- (2) whether the invention produces a useful, concrete and tangible result.

For a claimed to be statutory, the claimed invention must be within the technological arts. Mere ideas in the abstract (i.e., abstract idea law of nature, natural phenomena) that do not apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts fail to promote the "progress of science and the useful arts" and therefore are found to be non-statutory subject matter. For a method claim to pass the muster, the recited method must somehow apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts.

In the present case the inventive concept in claim 1-34 only recites an abstract idea. The recited steps of receiving unrestricted identification data form the applicant, retrieving all master template etc. do not apply, involve, use or advance the technological arts since all the steps can be performed in the mind of the user or by use of pencil and paper and no specific technology

Art Unit: 3621

(e.g. computer, processor) is expressly recited in the body of the claims. *In re Toma (CCPA 197 USPQ 852 (1978))*.

Although the recited method produces a useful, concrete and tangible result, since the claimed invention, as a whole, is not within the technological arts as explained above, claim 1-34 is deemed to be directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pare, Jr. et al (U.S. PG Pub No. 2001/0039533 A1).

4. As per claims 1, 21, 35 and 55, Pare Jr. et al teach a method/computer readable medium for consummating a transaction based on transactional histories in a biometric verification system that stores enrollment data and identification data comprising primary identification data, secondary identification data, if any, financial account data, if any, and a master template for each biometric sample for an applicant (*see abstract and summary of the invention*), comprising
a. receiving unrestricted identification data from the applicant (*see paragraph 0032*) retrieving all master templates associated with the identification data (*see paragraph 0117*) receiving a live

Art Unit: 3621

image of a biometric sample from the applicant; generating a live template from the live image (*see 00117*) e. consummating the transaction if the live template corresponds to the master template according to predefined criteria and if the system receives authorization for the consummation when a flag is set against the identification data (*see paragraphs 0032*).

5. As per claims 2, 3, 22, 23, 36, 37, 56 and 57, Pare Jr. et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein the transaction comprises a financial/non-financial transaction (*see abstract*).

6. As per claims 4-6, 38-40, Pare Jr. et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein the flag is set against primary, secondary identification data and financial account data (*see paragraph 0034, 0035*).

7. As per claims 7 and 42, Pare Jr. et al teach a method/computer readable medium comprising an additional step of presenting flag data if the flag is set (*see paragraphs 0037*).

8. As per claims 8, 9, 42 and 43, Pare Jr. et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein the system consummates the transaction based on receipt of authorization based on the presentation (*see paragraphs 0032 and 0117*).

9. As per claims 10-20, 24-35, 44-54 and 58-68, Pare Jr. et al teach a method/computer readable medium wherein the system stores multiple master templates for each biometric sample

Art Unit: 3621

such as fingerprint, voiceprint, a handprint, hand, facial geometry/ recognition, iris/retinal scan, thermal imaging for the applicant (*see claim 18*).

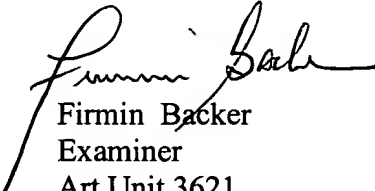
Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. (*see form 892*).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Firmin Backer whose telephone number is (703) 305-0624. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on (703) 305-9768. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Firmin Backer
Examiner
Art Unit 3621

February 3, 2004